



Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2014-0045; Notice 1]

General Motors, LLC, Receipt of Petition for Decision of
Inconsequential Noncompliance

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA),
Department of Transportation (DOT)

ACTION: Receipt of Petition

SUMMARY: General Motors, LLC, "GM" has determined that certain model year (MY) 2014 GMC Sierra Denali vehicles do not fully comply with paragraph S3.1.4.1 of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 102, *Transmission Shift Position Sequence, Starter Interlock, and Transmission Braking Effect*. GM has filed an appropriate report dated January 31, 2014 pursuant to 49 CFR part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports*.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments on this petition. Comments must refer to the docket and notice number cited at the beginning of this notice and be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Mail: Send comments by mail addressed to: U.S.

Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30,

West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New
Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- Hand Deliver: Deliver comments by hand to: U.S.
Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30,
West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New
Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket
Section is open on weekdays from 10 am to 5 pm except
Federal Holidays.
- Electronically: Submit comments electronically by:
logging onto the Federal Docket Management System
(FDMS) website at <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Follow
the online instructions for submitting comments.
Comments may also be faxed to (202) 493-2251.

Comments must be written in the English language, and be no
greater than 15 pages in length, although there is no limit to
the length of necessary attachments to the comments. If comments
are submitted in hard copy form, please ensure that two copies
are provided. If you wish to receive confirmation that your
comments were received, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed
postcard with the comments. Note that all comments received will
be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>,
including any personal information provided.

Documents submitted to a docket may be viewed by anyone at
the address and times given above. The documents may also be

viewed on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by following the online instructions for accessing the dockets. DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement is available for review in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477-78).

The petition, supporting materials, and all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated below will be filed and will be considered. All comments and supporting materials received after the closing date will also be filed and will be considered to the extent possible. When the petition is granted or denied, notice of the decision will be published in the Federal Register pursuant to the authority indicated below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. GM's Petition: Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h) (see implementing rule at 49 CFR part 556), GM submitted a petition for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This notice of receipt of GM's petition is published under 49 U.S.C. 30118 and 30120 and does not represent any agency decision or other exercise of judgment concerning the merits of the petition.

II. Vehicles Involved: Affected are approximately 2,747 MY 2014 GMC Sierra Denali vehicles equipped with RPO code "UHS" instrument cluster displays that were manufactured between July 16, 2013 and January 27, 2014.

III. Noncompliance: GM explains that while the subject vehicles are being driven the gear shift selection indicator (a.k.a., PRNDM) may not be visible for approximately 1.3 seconds during an instrument cluster reset, thus, failing to fully meet the requirements set forth in paragraph S3.1.4.1 of FMVSS No. 102.

IV. Rule Text: Paragraph S3.1.4.1 of FMVSS No. 102 requires:

S3.1.4.1 Except as specified in S3.1.4.3, if the transmission shift position sequence includes a park position, identification of shift positions, including the position in relation to each other and the position selected, shall be displayed in view of the driver whenever any of the following exist:

- (a) The ignition is in a position where the transmission can be shifted; or
- (b) The transmission is not in park

V. Summary of GM's Analyses: GM stated its belief that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety for the following reasons:

1. GM believes that the condition is extremely unlikely to occur. For the condition to occur, the instrument cluster design input rate must be exceeded. This can only happen under extreme load conditions. For example, GM was able to create the condition in the laboratory by

simultaneously inputting a series of warnings into the cluster during an active search of a media device connected to the vehicle while a Bluetooth call is received by the vehicle.

2. GM states that any disruption of the PRNDM display as a result of this condition is very brief. In the unlikely event the condition were to occur and the instrument cluster resets, the PRNDM display would be restored within 1.3 seconds. This momentary reset would be a clear indication to the driver that service may be required.
3. GM also believes that the condition has little effect on the normal operation of the vehicle. While the operation of the instrument panel is briefly affected by the underlying condition, none of the other vehicle operations are affected.
4. GM states that the condition is extremely remote and not likely to occur during shifting. Considering the unusual combination of pre-conditions for the condition to occur, it is very unlikely the brief disruption of the PRNDM display would occur when it is needed, i.e., during shifting. Most shifting occurs shortly after the vehicle is started, or just prior to being turned off. In the rare instance of a cluster reset, it would be

more likely to occur during driving, not immediately after starting the vehicle or just prior to the driver exiting the vehicle.

5. GM is not aware of any reported instrument cluster resets as a result of the subject noncompliance.
6. GM also expressed its belief that for previous noncompliances that GM believes were similar, NHTSA granted petitions for inconsequential noncompliance.

GM has additionally informed NHTSA that it has corrected the noncompliance so that all future production vehicles will comply with FMVSS No. 102.

In summation, GM believes that the described noncompliance of the subject vehicles is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety, and that its petition, to exempt GM from providing recall notification of noncompliance as required by 49 U.S.C. 30118 and remedying the recall noncompliance as required by 49 U.S.C. 30120 should be granted.

NHTSA notes that the statutory provisions (49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h)) that permit manufacturers to file petitions for a determination of inconsequentiality allow NHTSA to exempt manufacturers only from the duties found in sections 30118 and 30120, respectively, to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of a defect or noncompliance and to remedy the defect or noncompliance. Therefore, any decision on

this petition only applies to the subject vehicles that GM no longer controlled at the time it determined that the noncompliance existed. However, any decision on this petition does not relieve GM distributors and dealers of the prohibitions on the sale, offer for sale, or introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of the noncompliant motor vehicles under their control after GM notified them that the subject noncompliance existed.

Authority: (49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120: delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.95 and 501.8)

Jeffrey M. Giuseppe, Acting Director
Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance

Billing Code: 4910-59-P

[FR Doc. 2014-11881 Filed 05/21/2014 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 05/22/2014]